

THE GODSON LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS

No. 330

On Monday the 18th February 1884 the Second Mark Lodge in the Province was consecrated in the Masonic Hall & Club in Mill Street, Kidderminster.

W. Bro. G. Taylor, Prov. G. Secretary (Craft) P.M. of Lodges 377 & 560 and a Member of the Lechmere Mark Lodge No. 59 of Worcester was the prime mover of the project.

The Lodge was named after the Prov. G. Master of Worcestershire, Rt. W. Bro. A. F. Godson, who was also the Deputy Prov. Mark G. Master of Warwickshire, and owing to the absence of Lord Henniker, M.W.G. M.M. of England, the duty of consecration was conducted by W. Bro. Godson.

The Lodge was opened by Bro. Barkley and officers of the Sister Lodge of Worcester. This was followed by the advancement of the following Brethren.

1 F. J. Bland	(Craft Lodge 564)	Stability
2 G. Brettell	52	Harmonic
3 G. Burcher	377	Hope & Charity
4 A. Comber	377	
5 D. R. Eagan	564	
6 George Green	1874	
7 George Lees	560	Lechmere, Kidderminster
8 John Kossop	1874	
9 W. Perry Junr.	394	
10 W. B. Pigot	8	Grand Stewards
11 W. H. Roden	1874	(son of D. W. Roden)
12 T. E. Shore	377	
13 H. Taylor	377	
14 W. T. Threlfall	1874	
15 W. F. Gurney (J.P.)	564	
16 T. Vale	560	Vernon

The Lodge was then consecrated by Bro. A. F. Godson, Dep. P.G. M.M. Warwickshire, assisted by Past and Present Officers of Grand Mark Lodge. W. Barkley then assumed the Chair and installed

W. Bro. George Taylor as First Master

The principal officers appointed were as follows:-

S.W. W. Clement Green  
J.W. J. W. Consterdine Chadwick.

Among the other officers appointed were nine Masters & Past Masters of Craft Lodges.

During the next 7 years' work at Kidderminster the following brethren occupied the Chair.

G. Taylor	1884
W. G. Green	1885
J. W. C. Chadwick	1886
A. Green	1887
H. B. Pigot	1888
A. Comber	1889
G. F. Bland	1890
G. R. Green	1891

*i.e. Lechmere No. 59.*

*constituted 1861*

*Exposed 1889*

*(met at 50 HADDERS*

*POINT VICTORIA,*

*AUSTRALIA.)*

*1889 = formation of*

*Grand Lodge of Victoria*

*Australia*

*Mr. Leman, East London*

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During the year 1891 the Lodge was held at the Saracens Head, Dudley.  
This was on 17th August.

The last regular meeting at Kidderminster was held at the Masonic Hall on the 25th May, 1891, but a special meeting was held on 16th November, obviously to regularise the transfer to Dudley.

The first Regular Lodge was held at the Saracens Head, Dudley on the 15th February, 1892.

This was a sad event in the History of Kidderminster Masonry, but what was the reason?

I suggest that the main one was the serious decline in local industry and, of course, industry in Dudley was rapidly progressing.

My notes regarding the decline in membership of the Lechmere Lodge and its ultimate transfer and revival at Balsall Heath might have some proof of this point. One must also bear in mind that many brethren were helping to keep on the books at their ~~SARACENS~~ Lodge, Vernon 560 of Stourport. Then, of course, the R.A. Chapter was rapidly declining in membership.

So the end of the last century saw our Borough with one Masonic Lodge.

